

KAUR move delayed

Bob Fitch

editor

KAUR, Augustana's radio station, is spending another year in its studios in Old Main. A move by the FM station to new facilities in Tuve Hall has been delayed. The Children's Home Society continues to be housed in the space designated for KAUR.

"The most we can hope for now is a move next summer," Station Manager Dan Iseminger said, "but I'm not counting on it."

"We were told that by this summer KAUR would absolutely be moving to Tuve. So, we made all the arrangements. After the last advisory council meeting Chet Whitney informed us the move to first floor north Tuve was off," Iseminger said.

"But Charles Balcer made a motion to make every effort to move this summer. Third floor north in Tuve was open and we had engineers plan it all out for a move over there." Director of Residence Life Susan Schrader put the brakes on that plan.

"I have a hard time predicting foreign and freshman student population - it's up for grabs until they get here," Schrader said.

"It turned out I needed to use those rooms and third Tuve

north is filled beyond expectations." East Hall could have been left open to house the international students and freshmen. But because of the costs inherent in staff consideration and student concerns about the size of those residence hall rooms, East was closed.

Brian Bonde, the head of the KAUR advisory board, said, "KAUR can certainly exist in



the place it is for eight or nine more months."

"It will be nice when we get there. But delaying the move gives us more time for a financial breather - it's been just a year and a half since we bought all that new equipment."

"Morale seems high at the station," he continued. "The bottom line is what the listeners get. Students don't lose out - it is still a real radio situation."

Vice-president of Financial Affairs and Planning, Don Scott, cited two reasons for KAUR's non-move to Tuve. "The Children's Home Society

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that is presently there is in the process of constructing a new facility in town. They were not able to finish construction as soon as they had hoped. So we agreed to renew their lease in Tuve. Also, we've been examining the electrical system in Tuve. It is inadequate to serve any other office purposes.

"The air conditioning associated with a radio station forces this financially to be a phased project," Scott said, "and knowing that, we were not able to move KAUR." Scott was not aware of any promises being made guaranteeing the station's move this summer.

Iseminger has a different viewpoint. "The thing that gets me is they kept telling us 'get ready, get ready' and then we'd be told no.

"My biggest concern is that the school have studios they can be proud of. If they would put some money into it, we could draw a lot of students to Augustana College. My goal is to turn KAUR into a miniature Brown Institute. We could give students all the experience they would get there, plus a college degree.

"We want to do the move right - not rushed into. New studios would bring in a lot of kids," Iseminger said.